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INFORMATIONAL REPORT

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COUNTRY Ecuador

SUBJECT Communist Efforts to Regain Control of CTE
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1. The Ecuadoran Communist Party is presently engaged in an all-out effort to secure as many delegates as possible from the various syndicated unions of the Ecuadoran Confederation of Labor (CTE) for the forthcoming National Congress of that organization. A definite date for the Congress has not yet been determined, but it will probably be called for January 1949.
2. The Communists lost the presidency of the CTE at the last Congress and are now enthusiastic over the prospects of regaining control. They believe that they stand a fifty-fifty chance with the Socialists who presently control the CTE. Although Pedro Saad, Acting Secretary General of the Ecuadoran Communist Party, undoubtedly would be nominated in the case of a Communist majority, there is a growing sentiment within the Party in favor of Primitivo Barreto. The latter is considered by Party members as more representative of the Ecuadoran worker than is Saad.

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NO CHANGE in Class.

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